

09/787359

532 Rec'd PCT/PTO 16 MAR 2001

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Akihiro GOTO et al.

Appln. No. Not Yet Assigned

Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

Confirmation No.: Not Yet Assigned

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: March 16, 2001

For: ELECTRODE FOR ELECTRIC DISCHARGE SURFACE TREATMENT AND
MANUFACTURING METHOD THEREOF

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date for an application other than a continued prosecution application (CPA) under §1.53(d); (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a corresponding Communication from a Foreign Patent Office citing such documents of that portion of the Communication from a Foreign Patent Office indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign office.

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
Attorney Docket No. : Q63491

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant submits the following explanations:

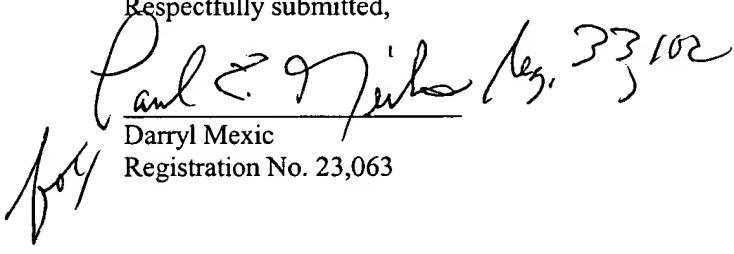
Japanese Patent Unexamined Publication No. Hei 9-192937 discloses a surface treating method that conducts a surface treatment by an electrode molded with powders containing metal hydride powders.

PCT/JP98/01088 discloses a discharge surface treating method that conducts a surface treatment by an electrode molded with powders containing carbon powders. A copy of the English Abstract is also enclosed.

Japanese Patent Unexamined Publication No. Hei 11-827 discloses a discharge surface treating method in which metal powders that are hardened by carbonization are compressed and molded into an electrode that is then subjected to a discharge surface treatment and thereafter surface-polished or a surface treatment by a compressed-powder electrode.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,


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